GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:680
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2007
SPENDING ON EDUCATION AND HEALTH SECTORS
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) allocated and spent on education and health sectors during the each of the last three years;

(b) whether the Government had promised to allocate six percent of GDP for education and three percent for health sectors; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to fulfill its commitments?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a), (b) & (c): The estimate of public expenditure on Education and Health during the last three years are as follows.

Year	Per cent of GDP	
	Education	Health
2003-04	3.50	1.26
2004-05	3.68	1.25
2005-06	3.72	1.41

The National Common Minimum Programme of the Government pledges to increase the public spending in education and health to at least 6 per cent and 2-3 per cent of GDP respectively. Consistent efforts are being made to increase public spending on both these sectors through various schemes and programmes such as Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Mid-Day-Meal in Education sector and National Rural Health Mission and Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana in the health sector. Both education and health are in the Concurrent list of the Constitution.